REGISTER OF CLASSIFICATION DECISIONS

Date of entry in Register:	14 October 1999
Name of applicant/court:	Paul Schwabe
Applicant to the Labelling Body:	Not Applicable
Title of Publication:	Austin Powers The Spy Who Shagged Me
Other Known Titles:	Not Stated
Director:	Not Applicable
Producer:	Not Applicable
Publisher:	Maverick Recording Company
Author:	Not Applicable
Format:	CD Music Slick
Country of Origin:	Not Stated
Language:	English

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Components of film originally examined: Not Applicable.

Feature:	Running time:
Trailers:	Running time:
	Total Running time:

Excision/Alteration: Not Applicable.

Reason(s) for Excision:

Not Applicable.

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Classification Decision:

Unrestricted.

Display Conditions:

Not Applicable.

Descriptive Note:

Not Applicable

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Direction to issue a label has been given on: Not Applicable.

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SUMMARY OF THE REASONS FOR DECISION:

The compact disc sound recording slick entitled *Austin Powers The Spy Who Shagged Me* is classified as:
Unrestricted.

The slick is in two parts consisting of 10 sections. It is a colourful advertisement for the music compact disc and film of the same name which includes images and text.

The slick was submitted to the Classification Office by a member of the public who was primarily concerned about the use of the word "shagged". He stated that not only is the word offensive but that its use treats women as sex objects and presents them as inherently inferior. The Office's response was to consider whether the use of the word "shagged" resulted in injury to the public good because of perceptions that women might be seen as inherently inferior. The Office argues that there is insufficient strength in the use of the word for it to oppress womankind. The contributing factors to this view include the humorous context of its use, the mild and relatively passive nature of the word especially compared to words which might be substituted for it, its absence from the list of offensive words in a recent Broadcasting Standards Authority survey, and the dated nature of the term.

Because the slick is classified as unrestricted no rights under the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990 are impinged.

OFLC Ref: 9901684